

**REPORT TO THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
2009**

**PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 321H-4,
HAWAII REVISED STATUTES REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES UNDER
THE NEUROTRAUMA SPECIAL FUND**

PREPARED BY:

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
December 2008**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 321H-4, the Department of Health is submitting an annual report on the activities of the neurotrauma special fund.

The neurotrauma special fund was established in 2002 by Act 160 for funding and contracting for services relating to neurotrauma. Funds are acquired through surcharges on traffic citations (speeding, drunk driving, not wearing seat belts, leaving the scene of an accident involving bodily injury) that are related to causes of neurotrauma injuries.

Effective January 1, 2003, surcharges from the specified traffic citations were deposited into the special fund. The Department of Health (DOH) has worked with neurotrauma survivors and their families to identify priorities for expenditure of monies in the special fund. The prioritized need was for assistance to access services and supports. The Neurotrauma Advisory Board provides stakeholder input into the DOH's neurotrauma activities and advisory recommendations regarding the special fund.

In compliance with Act 160 of 2002, the DOH established a Neurotrauma Advisory Board and an infrastructure "to develop, lead, administer, coordinate, monitor, evaluate, and set direction for a comprehensive system to support and provide services for survivors of neurotrauma injuries." This legislative intent has been met with the expanded Medicaid benefits scheduled to begin in February 2009. The DOH wishes to thank the Department of Human Services, the Legislature and the Governor for the support and collaboration which culminates with the new era for neurotrauma and brain injury survivors.

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE IN COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 321H-4, H.R.S.

An annual report on the activities under the neurotrauma special fund.

Introduction

Act 160, signed into law on June 7, 2002, mandated the Department of Health (DOH) to “develop, lead, administer, coordinate, monitor, evaluate, and set direction for a comprehensive system to support and provide services for survivors of neurotrauma injuries.” The Act also required the DOH to establish a neurotrauma advisory board and administer a neurotrauma special fund. The neurotrauma special fund started to accumulate monies January 1, 2003. This report provides a status report on the fund activities for the period of October 2007 to September 2008.

Neurotrauma Advisory Board

The Neurotrauma Advisory Board was established, per Act 160, to advise the DOH on the use of the neurotrauma special fund and development of a system of supports for persons with neurotrauma. The Board’s membership constitutes key stakeholder group representation on a statewide basis and has developed a strategic plan to carryout their functions. There are 4 working sub-committees – 1) Outreach; 2) Special Fund; 3) Legislative; and 4) Registry (the latter two joint with the State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board). Current members of the Board are listed in Attachment I.

Use of the Neurotrauma Special Fund

Chapter 321H-4, H.R.S. specifies that the neurotrauma special fund shall be used as follows: (1) education, (2) assistance to obtain access to services, (3) creation of a registry of neurotrauma injuries, and (4) necessary administrative expenses.

Effective July 1, 2003, three DOH positions were funded by the neurotrauma fund to provide for coordination and support of a neurotrauma system of supports. Duties include planning and coordination of neurotrauma awareness/education activities, information and referral supports for individuals with neurotrauma and their families, support to access services, support to the Neurotrauma and State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Boards, needs assessment, neurotrauma trending, and systems analysis.

In addition, contracts and funding are provided for educational activities on neurotrauma.

(1) Educational activities:

DOH staff have engaged in numerous educational activities in the areas of, but not limited to: 1) staff development; 2) participation in conferences; 3) public exhibits; 4) outreach to neighbor islands; 5) dissemination of educational materials to board members

and list serve; and 6) utilization of the neurotrauma special fund to procure education-related activities.

DOH provided education through a contract with the Brain Injury Association of Hawaii (BIA-HI) implemented on April 10, 2007. The BIA-HI, in collaboration with the State Neurotrauma Advisory Board (SNTAB) and the State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board (STBIAB) is contracted to develop and implement educational and awareness activities and a comprehensive statewide needs assessment. Service activities include: plan and coordinate a Neurotrauma Conference in October, 2008; maintain a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Speakers Bureau; increase the number of professionals who are certified as Brain Injury Specialists; and conduct a statewide TBI Community Needs and Resource Assessment.

The DOH and its STBIAB and SNTAB board members, continues outreach to the neighbor island communities in their activities. DOH program staff met with survivors and service providers from Maui and Kauai to start a brain injury support group

DOH staff have participated in conferences, events and trainings including the required annual Federal TBI Program State Grantee meeting.

DOH staff will continue in their efforts to promote education and awareness activities through partnerships and collaborations with the respective advisory boards and community stakeholders statewide.

(2) Assistance to individuals and families to identify and obtain access to service activities:

- . Support for neurotrauma services included in the Department of Human Services Quest Expanded Access (QExA) 1115 Waiver Services include residential, rehabilitation, and long-term supportive services. DHS developed QExA with NT benefits through both advisory boards and interested stakeholders. This new NT Medicaid benefit with its two new providers, Evercare and Ohana Health Plan, is scheduled to be implemented on February 1, 2009.
- . DOH partnered with the Pacific Basin Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (University of Hawaii – Manoa, John A. Burns School of Medicine) to design, develop and implement a peer-mentoring project for individuals with TBI. The purpose of this project is to train mentors and have them assist persons with TBI to seek and utilize social services. Efforts by the contractor include the development of a brochure, development of a training program, and recruitment of potential mentors and mentees.
- . A DOH Neurotrauma Help Line was established to assist individuals and families to access information. The Help Line provides screening,

information and referral to assist individuals and their family members. From October 2007 to September 2008 the Helpline received a total of 300 calls/emails/face-to-face contacts (as compared to 258 in 2007) for an average of 25 contacts per month. A total of 219 individuals (as compared to 175 in 2007) were served with 103 being first time callers.

TBI Informational Discharge Folders are provided to the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific (RHOP) and Queen's Medical Center (QMC). With consultation from the QMC Neuroscience Institute, RHOP Stroke Core Team, American Heart/Stroke Association, and the Neurotrauma Advisory Board, a Stroke Informational Discharge Folder was developed and distributed to RHOP patients in May '08.

The Neurotrauma website is user-friendly, accessible, with updated resources. The quarterly newsletter, Neurotrauma News has a distribution to over 400 people.

(3) Development of a registry within the State to identify incidence, prevalence, needs, and related information of survivors of neurotrauma injuries:

- . Utilizing efforts of the State Neurotrauma and Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Boards' joint registry subcommittee, the DOH partners with the Hawaii Health Data Warehouse (HHDW) to create a neurotrauma registry with the Department's data warehouse. Critical elements of the registry have been developed and outlined. The HHDW has developed an online database.
- . An in-house registry was initiated in July 2005 for all those clients involved with the program since its inception in June 2002. As of September 2008 there were 221 individuals in the registry, up from 160 last year, a 38% increase.

(4) Necessary administrative expenses to carry out this chapter.

Utilization of funds under this category has been expended (\$43,080) for various educational and awareness activities on a statewide basis that is consistent with goals and objectives set forth by the STBIAB, NTAB and DOH.

Collection and Expenditure of Funds

In FY 2008, a total of \$755,896 has been deposited into the fund from traffic surcharge collections. During that period of time, \$167,867 has been expended for positions. An additional \$43,080 has been used for educational activities for persons with neurotrauma. As of July 1, 2008, there was a balance of \$1,854,123 in the Neurotrauma Special Fund.

A projected budget for the Neurotrauma Special Fund is provided in Attachment II. The budget reflects activities authorized under Chapter 321H-4, H.R.S.

Summary

Following the Legislative intent of Act 160, the DOH has accomplished the goal to develop a neurotrauma system of supports to assist survivors of neurotrauma injuries and their families. The two Advisory Boards have progressed in their efforts to become an effective advisory body to the DOH. Consideration should be given to the establishment of one advisory body.

During the coming year, the DOH will focus its efforts on assisting individuals with neurotrauma to access needed services through the Department of Human Services' QExA 1115 Waiver program. The enrollment process has begun and services are expected to begin in February, 2009.

Attachment I

NEUROTRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD
Chapter 321H-3, HRS

VOTING MEMBERSHIP

	Term/representation
Eric Tash Program Manager Injury Prevention and Control Program Department of Health	At-Large
Joyce Arizumi	Spinal Cord Injury Support Group/Survivor
Lyna Burian	Traumatic Brain Injury Family Member
Joe Cordova Administrator Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division Department of Human Services	At-Large
Angie Enoka	Brain Injury Assoc. Representative/Survivor
Elzadia Kaina, R.N. Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific	STBIAB Chairperson
Greg Keast Case Management Coordinator HMSA	Private Sector
Sally Jones, R.N. Queen's Trauma Center Queen's Medical Center	Trauma Center
Ian Mattoch, Esq.	At-Large
Glenn Morgan	Spinal Cord Injury Survivor
Alan Parker Executive on Aging Hawaii County Office of Aging	At-Large
Scott Sagum	Stroke Survivor
Karen Seth Manager, Neuroscience Institute Queen's Medical Center	Private

Lori Suan
Director, State Health Alliance
Heart and Stroke Initiatives
American Heart/American Stroke Association

Milton Takara

Curtis Tom, DDS

Stella Wong
Vice President
Elderly Services Programs
Catholic Charities of Hawaii

Stroke Association (Chair)

Brain Injury Assoc.
Representative/Survivor

Stroke Survivor

At-Large

Attachment II

Projected Expenditures for the Neurotrauma Special Fund
FY 09

Balance as of 7/1/08 \$1,791,094

Items

Salaries \$ 167,867

Contracts

1. University of Hawaii – Manoa
 - a. Peer Mentoring Project \$ 144,000
 - b. Fall Prevention Study \$ 75,000
2. Brain Injury Association – Hawaii \$ 116,000
3. Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific \$ 150,000

Education/Awareness Activities \$ 30,000

Administrative Expenses

1. Travel (Neighbor Island, Out of State Conferences) \$ 5,000
2. Materials and Supplies \$ 5,000

Expenses \$ 692,867

Revenues \$ 755,896

Net \$ 63,029

Balance as of 7/1/08 \$ 1,791,094

Estimated Fund Balance as of 6/30/09 \$ 1,854,123